

REMARKS

Claims 18-34 and 68-90 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, new claims 68-90 are added and claims 1-17 and 35-67 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Support for the new claims can be found, for example, in the original claims and, for example, in Figure 4. No new matter is added.

I. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 35, 37-57 and 59-65 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,598,032 to Fidalgo; rejects claims 66 and 67 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Fidalgo in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,694,399 to Leydier et al. (hereinafter "Leydier"); rejects claims 1-7 and 9-17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Fidalgo in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,815,426 to Jigour et al. (hereinafter "Jigour"); rejects claims 18-20, 22-26, 28-32 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Fidalgo in view of Jigour, and further in view of Leydier; rejects claims 36 and 58 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Fidalgo in view of Leydier, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,628,240 to Amadeo; rejects claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Fidalgo in view of Jigour, and further in view of Amadeo and Leydier; and rejects claims 21, 27 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Fidalgo in view of Jigour and Leydier, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,594,154 to Brewer et al. (hereinafter "Brewer"). The rejections of claims 18-34 are respectfully traversed, and the rejections of canceled claims 1-17 and 35-67 are moot.

The applied references, either alone or in a permissible combination, do not teach and would not have rendered obvious "[a] SIM holder for detachably holding a SIM, said SIM holder comprising...a terminal plate contained in the case and capable of being electrically connected to a contact-terminal plate included in the SIM," as recited in independent claims 18 and 28 (emphasis added).

The Office Action asserts that Fidalgo, in Figure 1, discloses a thermoplastic sheet 3 that allegedly corresponds to the claimed terminal plate recited above (see Office Action, page 15). This assertion fails for at least the following reasons.

Fidalgo merely discloses a contact-free card 1 capable of contact and non-contact communication (see Fidalgo, col. 3, lines 13-17). The card is composed of a card body 2 formed by a lower thermoplastic sheet 3 and an upper thermoplastic sheet 4, with an antenna 5 placed in a layer of bonder 6 on top of the thermoplastic sheet 3 (see Fidalgo, col. 3, lines 32-37). Further, the card 1 has an electronic module 7 located in the upper thermoplastic sheet 4, above the antenna 5 (see Fidalgo, col. 3, lines 37-38). The antenna 5 has contact terminals 15 that connect to contact zones 12 of the electronic module 7 (see Fidalgo, col. 5, lines 61-66). As a result, Fidalgo merely discloses that the electronic module 7 is electrically connected to the antenna 5, but is not in any way electrically connected to the thermoplastic sheet 3. Indeed, Fidalgo does not disclose any terminal plate whatsoever that is capable of being electrically connected to the electronic module 7. Accordingly, Fidalgo does not teach and would not have rendered obvious "[a] SIM holder for detachably holding a SIM, said SIM holder comprising...a terminal plate contained in the case and capable of being electrically connected to a contact-terminal plate included in the SIM," as recited in independent claims 18 and 28 (emphasis added).

Moreover, the other applied references, either alone or in a permissible combination, do not teach these features.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 18 and 28 are patentable over the applied references. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 18 and 28. Moreover, claims 19-27 and 29-34 depend from claims 18 and 28, respectively. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests

withdrawal of the rejections of claims 19-27 and 29-34, at least based on their respective dependence on claims 18 and 28, as well as for the additional features each of these claims recites.

II. New Claims 68-90


Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 68-90 are patentable over the applied references. For example, the applied references, either alone or in a permissible combination, do not teach and would not have rendered obvious "a pair of U-shaped circuits [being] formed so as to surround the IC chip on a surface of the substrate opposite a surface of the substrate on which the contact terminal plate is mounted," as recited in new independent claim 68. Moreover, for example, the applied references, either alone or in a permissible combination, do not teach and would not have rendered obvious "a pair of U-shaped circuits [being] formed on a surface of the substrate opposite a surface of the substrate on which the contact-terminal plate is mounted, and the U-shaped circuits are connected to antenna terminals of the IC chip, respectively and connected to the contact terminals of the contact-terminal plate via through holes, and the terminals of the IC chip other than the antenna terminals which are connected to the U-shaped circuits are connected to the connecting pads placed on the surface of the substrate on which the U-shaped circuits are formed through bonding wires," as recited in new independent claim 79.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: May 11, 2009

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